# CLAIMS

1.    A method of conducting a telephonic speech recognition application comprising:

    A. making telephonic contact with a respondent;

    B. presenting the respondent with at least one introductory prompt to reply to;

    C. utilizing a speech recognition algorithm to process the audio responses given by the respondent to determine a level of capability of the respondent;

    D. based on said audio responses, presenting the respondent with one of:

        at least one prompt associated with an application; and

        an explanation of the operation of said speech recognition application.

2.    The method of claim 1 wherein said explanation includes at least one of a sample prompt and instructions on responding to the at least one prompt of said application.

3.    A system for conducting a telephonic speech recognition application comprising:

        an automated telephone device for making telephonic contact with a respondent; and

        a speech recognition device which, upon said telephonic contact being made, presents the respondent with at least one introductory prompt for the respondent to reply to; receives a spoken response from the respondent; and performs a speech recognition analysis on said spoken response to determine a capability of the respondent to complete the application;

        wherein, if said speech recognition device, based on said spoken response to said introductory prompt, determines that the respondent is capable of competing said application, said speech recognition device presents at least one application prompt to said respondent; and

wherein, if said speech recognition device, based on said spoken response to said introductory prompt, determines that the respondent is not capable of completing said application, said speech recognition system presents instructions on completing said application to the respondent.